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# Alexandria Gazette

Fair today and probably Sun-  
day; gentle northeast and  
southeast winds.  
High tide 4:32 a. m. ad 4:50  
p. m.  
Sun rose 4:46. Sun sets 7:24.

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1916

PRICE 2. CENTS.

## WILSON PLANS PEACE MOVE

Thinks Time Nearly Ripe  
For Informal Discus-  
sion of Terms

## ARMIES DEADLOCKED

Executive May Give Hint of Plan in  
Address He Will Make in Capital  
City Tonight

Washington, May 27.—President Wilson is giving more serious consideration to the possibility of restoring peace to Europe than at any time since the outbreak of the war.

From an authoritative source it is learned that the President is preparing to do everything possible in an informal way to bring about the discussion of peace between belligerent nations, although he has not indicated his intention immediately to offer his services formally as mediator.

His address tonight before the League to Enforce Peace is expected to be in the nature of a preliminary overture.

The President is convinced the war is deadlocked and that continuance merely means the killing of more people and the further impoverishment of European nations, both belligerent and neutral.

Through various channels Mr. Wilson has kept in close touch with the development of peace prospects. It is understood he will convey a message to his audience tonight which is certain to be read with deep interest by representatives of foreign governments and by the people of the warring nations.

The President is understood to have an open mind on the question of just when he should renew formal offers of mediation.

Mr. Wilson's closest advisers believe the rulers of warring nations, because of their close relationship, even kinship, will have as important a part in restoring peace as the ministers of their Governments. It will occasion no surprise in official circles if in some manner the rulers of the countries at war open the way for peace conversations.

The President takes the position, it was authoritatively stated, that the neutrals of the world, as much as belligerents, have a right to participate and if possible to initiate peace negotiations because of the economic results already developed and those which will follow the conflict.

The President has been deeply interested in the growth of peace talk among responsible officials in several of the belligerent nations during the last three weeks.

He has conveyed the impression to those who have talked with him that he thinks the continuance of such discussions is bound to have its effect in restoring peace, despite the belligerent attitude between some of the officials.

The President has indicated that he is desirous that the United States show its friendship for all of the nations involved by contending for a peace which will be fair to all of them and protect each from being crushed or humiliated. Mr. Wilson is understood to agree with a suggestion that a peace following a decisive defeat of one nation or group would create only lasting hatred and sow seeds of future conflicts.

Berlin, May 27.—Another visit by Col. E. M. House to Europe would come as no surprise to initiated quarters here. The American rumors to this effect are regarded as having a certain basis in fact, although the opinion prevails that the trip would naturally be postponed until after the national conventions.

It is hoped here that should Colonel House pay a visit, he will come this time as a harbinger of peace, or at any rate, to prepare, if possible, the foundations for a peace proposal, difficult as this is recognized to be.

During his last previous visit to Europe Colonel House made no effort and conducted no investigations in the direction of peace—in Berlin at any event—having perhaps found absolutely adverse conditions in capitals

of nations hostile to Germany. Presumably, also, he had previous information that American mediation was under no circumstances desired, and that it would not be accepted so long as the United States continued to supply Germany's foes with cannon shot, shell, cartridge, and powder for waging war against the Central Powers. Moreover, no intimation had been given at the time of this visit that irascibility in high quarters here on the munitions questions was in any way abated.

The situation, it may be said, now has changed. Apparently there is no harm, from either a political or a strategic standpoint, in saying that Germany would welcome peace.

## DEWEY'S CORROBORATION

Admiral Says Roosevelt Kept Germany Away From Venezuela

New York, May 27.—A special dispatch to the New York Herald from Oyster Bay, N. Y., says:

Theodore Roosevelt was much pleased yesterday to receive a letter written by Admiral George Dewey to Henry A. Wise Wood, confirming a recently published statement of how Mr. Roosevelt, when he was President of the United States, used Admiral Dewey and the American fleet as a "big stick" to convince the German government that it would be unwise to make temporary acquisition of a portion of the coast of Venezuela.

Germany had threatened to do that very thing and President Roosevelt mobilized the American fleet south of Cuba under Admiral Dewey and then told the German Ambassador, Dr. von Holleben, that if the German emperor did not agree to submit the Venezuelan question to arbitration within ten days Admiral Dewey would receive orders to sail for Venezuelan waters and prevent any foreign landing.

A week went by and no word from Germany came, and then Dr. von Holleben told Mr. Roosevelt that the German emperor could not change his mind and the matter was not one for arbitration.

"Then there is no use for Dewey's waiting the full ten days," said President Roosevelt. "If the assurance does not come from the emperor in 48 hours Dewey will sail."

Within 36 hours the emperor agreed to Roosevelt's terms and Admiral Dewey did not have to use force to prevent a landing of the German forces in Venezuela.

That story was widely published recently and in some quarters was criticized as a misstatement of facts, as the critics averred Admiral Dewey and the fleet were not mobilized at the time. Admiral Dewey's letter, however, fully bears out the story.

## CIVILIANS MURDERED

Mexican Rebels Attack Train Containing Government Employees

San Antonio, Tex., May 27.—More than 200 civilians were murdered between Mexico City and Cuernavaca three weeks ago, according to private advices received here.

Rebels operating between Cuernavaca and Mexico City attacked a train on which government employees were being sent to Cuernavaca to assume the governmental work in Cuernavaca.

On the train were many women, wives and daughters of employees. Almost all of them were reported to have been subjected to indignities, after which a few of them were killed.

The rebels attacked the train south of Tres Marias, on a steep grade, overwhelming the little guard, and poured into the cars a heavy fire.

Those who leaped from the doors and windows were shot down as they attempted to escape.

Only one man—the express messenger—was left alive, according to the reports received here.

The rebels obtained a consignment of ammunition said to be 2,000,000 cartridges, and 3,000,000 pesos of the new issue of currency.

## Board of Aldermen.

A meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held at noon today to consider certain papers in reference to the issuance of annexation bonds, etc., acted upon at an adjourned meeting of the lower board last Wednesday night. The action of the Common Council was concurred in without discussion. The official proceedings will be found elsewhere in the Gazette.

## NO NEW CHANGES IN VERDUN FRONT

Germans Ineffectually Strive  
to Drive French From  
Places

## SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES

Artillery of Both Contending Armies  
Extremely Active on All Sectors  
in West

Berlin, May 27.—French troops succeeded in penetrating Cumieres village during furious fighting in the northwest of Verdun, but were driven out thence by the Germans this afternoon. The Germans took sixty-three prisoners.

Paris, May 27.—The Germans have lost 300,000 men at Verdun, while the French losses have totaled not more than 120,000, Colonel Feyler, Swiss military critic, estimates in a Geneva newspaper.

"The Germans must remember that they are the assailants and that they have lost 100,000 men a month without decisive results."

Paris, May 27.—French troops recaptured a large part of the village of Cumieres nine miles northwest of Verdun, in heavy fighting last night, the war office announced today.

Despite the most desperate counter-attacks, the French retained possession of the eastern part of the village, as well as several German trenches to the northwest.

launched from the grove between Cumieres and the west bank of the Meuse.

After pressing forward into this wood in grenade fighting Thursday, the French commanders massed detachments there yesterday, and last night threw these forces against the Germans who had occupied Cumieres earlier in the week.

At the same time another French force attacked in the Cumieres woods northwest of the village, capturing German trenches.

The Germans counter-attacked with great fury, but when the latest dispatches were filed to the war office the French were still holding the eastern portion of Cumieres, three-quarters of a mile from the Meuse.

East of Hill 304 French grenadiers made some progress during the night. On the east bank of the Meuse, the Germans attacked French trenches near Fort Douaumont, but were completely repulsed.

Artillery was very active on the northern front of Verdun last night.

## NOT GUILTY

Jury in Riggs Bank Case Returns  
Verdict this afternoon.

Washington, May 27.—"Not guilty" was the verdict returned in the Riggs Bank perjury trial at 11:35 o'clock today.

The jury was out but nine minutes, when word was received from the jury room that the twelve men were ready to return their decision.

## GOMPERS OPPOSES PEACE

Leader Says Labor Must Have a  
Voice in Negotiations

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, made a declaration in the course of his speech yesterday evening before the meeting of the League to Enforce Peace in Washington that in any program looking toward the establishment of more permanent peace between nations, labor will insist upon certain principles.

He said: "Hating war as I do, I am free to confess that if I could stop this war now by a turn of my hand, I would not do it. I hold that something must be determined by this war, that something is, whether the future belongs to autocracy and militarism or to democracy, liberty and humanity."

"Peace terms" he said "must not deny to small and dependent states that final right of revolution that sometimes is the only road to justice and freedom."

## LOCAL BREVITIES

Mr. Norman Roberts, who has been ill at his home 517 Queen Street is improving.

The Rev. Oscar J. Randall, of Washington, will preach at tomorrow night's service of the Second Presbyterian Church.

Ten candidates are taking the examination at the United State Post office today for the position of clerk-carrier in the local post office.

The Rosemont Development Company has sold to John Smithdeal, of Cherrydale, Alexandria county, lot 30 in block 2 of section 1.

Louis Dyer was cut by William C. Dunn during an altercation on north St. Asap hstrect yesterday. Dyer's injuries were not serious. He received treatment at the Alexandria Hospital.

Adjutant W. H. Heift, of the Salvation Army of Washington, will speak at the Second Presbyterian Church tomorrow morning and at Trinity Methodist Church tomorrow night.

Children's Day services will be held in the M. E. Church South tomorrow, beginning at 10:30 a. m. An interesting literary and musical program has been prepared for the occasion.

In the circuit court yesterday the will of Mrs. Harvey A. Johnson was admitted to probate. Her property is left to her children. In the same court Mrs. Ellen White was named as administratrix of the estate of William Grigsby.

The Rev. Eugene B. Jackson, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church, will give his impressions of the Great Baptist Convention recently held at Asheville, N. C. tomorrow morning. At night he will continue his series of sermons on "Jesus and His Friends."

## "IMMORAL MONSTER"

This is Deduction of Doctor Waite's  
Alienist

New York, May 27.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, New York's "immoral monster" by his own alienists' description, may know before night whether the State of New York will take his life for the killing of his wealthy father-in-law, John E. Peck of Grand Rapids.

His case was concluded late yesterday, when Dr. Allen R. Diefendorf, an alienist who examined him, left the stand.

The prosecution today will place experts on mental diseases on the stand to prove either that Waite is shamming insanity and is now perfectly sane, or that he is not insane to the point where he cannot distinguish right from wrong.

According to the two alienists who testified for Waite, he is an "ego maniac," and can be otherwise characterized as a "moral imbecile," a "moral idiot," or a "morally insane person." They agreed that he is absolutely without feeling or emotion.

"And would you hesitate to lock Dr. Waite up in an asylum?" was the parting question on examination of Dr. Allen Rods Diefendorf, one of Waite's alienists.

"I would not," he responded, "I would lock him up and keep him locked up for the rest of his life. He is an immoral monster."

One of the witnesses the State will place on the stand today is an inmate of the Tombs. He will give testimony on Dr. Waite's behavior there possibly in support of the State's contention that the defendant now is shamming.

The most surprising feature of the testimony yesterday was the telling of Dr. Waite's courtroom flirtation. He told an alienist that he had tried in vain to catch and hold the eye of a fair spectator while the prosecution was trying to prove to the jury that his life should be taken.

Dr. Waite was more disappointed at his failure to charm her than he was at any of the evidence.

DEVILED & HARD SHELL CRABS  
AT JACOB BRILL'S FOOT KING ST.

## HOUSTON SLATED AS CHAIRMAN

Speaker of House of Dele-  
gates May Wield Gavel  
At Roanoke

## SAID TO BE A NEUTRAL

Representative Saunders May Be  
Selected Temporary Presiding Of-  
ficer of Gathering

Harry R. Houston, of Hampton, for permanent chairman.

Representative E. W. Saunders, of the Sixth District for temporary chairman.

From the best accounts obtainable yesterday this is the ticket for the State Democratic Convention that will meet in Roanoke on next Friday. In the case of Mr. Houston the sentiment is practically unanimous. Organization and anti-organization leaders pronounced him in every way acceptable and it now appears that the Speaker of the House of Delegates will wield the gavel when the delegates from every city and county in Virginia gather to take counsel for the good of the party.

Until yesterday it was generally assumed that Representative C. C. Carlin, of the Eighth District, would be selected to open the convention as temporary chairman. The position is important because the temporary chairman is looked to for the keynote speech which outlines the problem of the party from the standpoint of the State and nation, and indicates in the rough the platform that should be adopted.

Mr. Carlin, however, has officially made it known that he will not accept appointment.

The temporary chairman of the convention will be appointed by the State Democratic Committee, which will meet at 8 o'clock next Thursday night. This office will call the delegates to order and preside until the permanent officers are elected by the convention itself. In his capacity as temporary chairman, Mr. Saunders will not be called upon to pass on motions or points raised in connection with the Glass-James contest, since that business will not be taken up until after the convention is permanently organized.

Mr. Saunders presided over the convention in Roanoke eight years ago.

## CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS.

Washington, May 27.—Mobilization of men and resources and organization to place America first in the list of nations to form an international council for prevention of future wars occupied the entire program of the final day of the first annual conference of the League to Enforce Peace, at the Elasco Theater today.

Means of spreading the doctrine of "preventive statesmanship," expounded by Secretary of War Baker at the meeting last night, took a new turn today, when announcement was made that this afternoon the results of a quiet but spectacular campaign to raise \$300,000 for the league in 24-hours would be made known.

## HILL'S CONDITION

St. Paul, May 27.—The condition of James J. Hill was reported as "satisfactory" by Dr. James S. Gilfillan, of St. Paul, who with Dr. William James Mayo, of Rochester, Minn., made an examination of the railroad builder.

As a result of the consultation, it was decided not to operate upon Mr. Hill, and Dr. Mayo who arrived on a special train late yesterday, returned to Rochester.

Mrs. Grace Ale formerly of this city but now of Spring City Pa, has returned to home after spending two weeks with her sister in Queen St.

HARD SHELL CRABS NOW ON  
SALE AT RAMMELS CAFE

GAZETTE One Month . . . . . 43c

## AUSTRIANS MEET CHECK

Italians, However, Forced Out of  
Positions at Right of Astico line

London, May 27.—Dispatches from Rome show that the Austrian offensive has been practically checked, except between Posina and Astico, where Italians evacuated advanced position on the right wing of the Astico line. In describing the fighting the general staff says:

"In the Lagarina valley the enemy is persisting in his impetuous attack against our lines between the Adige and Val L'arsa. Yesterday he was again repulsed, suffering heavy losses. Dense infantry masses attacking Coni Zugna and Buole Pass were moved down by our calm and unerring fire."

"Between Val L'arsa and Posina the situation is unchanged. Between Posina and Astico our troops, after repulsing an attack, evacuated an advanced position on the right wing of our Astico lines."

"In the Asiago sector the enemy yesterday attacked our positions east of the Assa valley. The fight with alternate successes and repulses lasted the entire day and is still raging."

"In the Sugana valley, on the night of Wednesday, the enemy repeatedly attacked Mount Covaron. He was repulsed with very heavy losses."

"Our infantry and Alpine columns drove the enemy from the slope to the left of the Mase Torren."

## GIRL'S BODY ON RAILROAD

Youth of 17 Last Seen With Her  
Under Arrest

Hartford City, Ind., May 27.—The body of Belle Ashbaugh, 14 years old, beautiful daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ashbaugh, was found stretched across the freight tracks at the Pennsylvania Railroad station here early yesterday, and later John Starkey, 17 years old, a bakery employee, was arrested and is being held pending an investigation.

The finding of the body ended a search of several hours by the police and relatives of the girl. There was evidence of a struggle near the track and the girl's clothes were torn from her body as it was dragged along the ground.

Starkey was the last person seen with the girl Thursday night. According to Mrs. Ashbaugh, Belle was a student in the public school and had never gone out at night until Thursday night.

## CHURCH WOMEN IN RIOT

Drive Priests out With Shower of  
Stones and Eggs, Force Door  
and Wreck House

Bridgeport, Conn., May 27.—Several hundred women, indignant because they had failed in an effort to effect the removal of Father Gaspar Pinkin from the pastorate of the Church of St. Cyril and Methodius, attacked the rectory in Pembroke Street Wednesday with such ferocity that the police reserves had to be called out to put down the riot.

The angry women, mostly foreigners, smashed the windows and hurled ancient eggs through the apertures. They broke open the door, wrecked furniture and literally tore the place to pieces in search for the priest and other occupants of the rectory. But Father Pinkin and the others who were in the house managed to flee from the rear door when they saw the advancing army and escaped safely. Thirteen of the invaders were arrested.

## BISHOP GIVEN INCREASE

East Carolina Diocese Raises Annual  
Stipend from \$3,000 to \$3,600

Kingston, N. C., May 27.—The salary of the Episcopal Bishop of East Carolina, the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Darst, was increased from \$3,000 to \$3,600 per annum by the diocesan council in session here this week. In addition to salary the bishop is allowed the handsome bishops house in Wilmington and expenses.

The increase places Bishop Darst's annual stipend on a par with what it is understood to have been at St. James Church, Richmond, before he resigned that charge to become bishop of East Carolina.

Bishop Darst remarried a few weeks ago claiming a Wilmington girl for his second bride.

GAZETTE One Week . . . . . 10c

## ALLIES TO CHANGE THEIR POLICY

Officials in Washington Say  
They Will Yield to  
United States

## EXPECT EARLY REPLY

America Shows Itself Champion of  
Neutral Rights—Belligerents Not  
Judge and Jury

Washington, May 27.—Early—and favorable—response to the American mail seizures protest to England and France is confidently expected by the Administration.

Intimations today from State Department men are that advance discussions between Ambassador Spring-Rice and the department had given the impression that England intends to comply with the American demands.

This is the more evident, as the United States did not stipulate exact changes to be made, but instead demanded only "a radical change" in the allies' policy, England knows, however, what terms the United States expects, and as Sir Cecil has endeavored to head off the note, it is presumed he has outlined concessions England is willing to make.

As a matter of fact, one official has said England's intentions appear good, but her administrative system so faulty that seizures have continued despite her pledges to refrain.

The case against England and France as set out in the note, now mailed, is:

That England forces neutral ships into her ports or persuades ship lines to touch Britain, and then searches mails which the United States says, are inviolable.

That England has been unresponsive on certain points of the previous mail protest.

That detention of ships for mail search purposes is unwarranted.

That the allies practice violates the February 15, announcement, and the mails section of The Hague convention.

That the United States will enter damage claims for past occurrences. That even United States official mail has been outraged.

In conclusion, the United States states plainly it will "no longer tolerate," the allies' practices.

Beyond this, it shows itself as a champion of neutral rights in its announcement that a belligerent cannot be the judge and jury on its violations of international law.

In its position this Government has the active support of other neutrals, who previously have protested against the British course.

Holland has gone so far as to make reprisals against England. This the United States cannot do, because of existent treaty relations.

## HUGHES WILL ACCEPT.

New York, May 27.—According to a report which emanated from the vicinity of the St. Regis Hotel, where Governor Whitman has been holding political conferences with Hughes leaders for several days, Justice Hughes has empowered Governor Whitman to let it be known that he will accept the Republican nomination if the honor is offered to him with the indorsement of the Progressives.

It is understood, according to the report, that Whitman, in his nomination speech in the Chicago convention, officially will state Hughes will accept.

Frank H. Hitchcock, who has been working for Hughes in various parts of the country for the last three months, is the man, according to the report, who brought this word to Governor Whitman from Washington.

The conference between Hitchcock and Whitman Thursday at the St. Regis was recalled, and the significant silence of Hitchcock upon leaving also was remembered. When Governor Whitman does not care to take our conference public, I must also refuse to talk about it."